Purdue University announces the Center on Aging and the Life Course, a multi-school interdisciplinary center for the study of aging.

The Center on Aging and the Life Course (CALC) was officially launched at the symposium on life course inequality on the afternoon of Thursday, September 18, 2003. Standing left to right are Center staff; Dr. Gerry Hyner, Director, Gerontology Program; Dr. Ken Ferraro, Director, CALC; Ms. Margaret Favorite, Project Coordinator; and Dr. David Waters, Associate Director, CALC.

Since its founding in 1996, the Gerontology Program experienced considerable success and the Center on Aging and the Life Course represents a new stage in the evolution of interdisciplinary research and education on aging at Purdue University.

The creation of the Center clarifies the research focus on the dynamic changes associated with aging throughout the life course. In addition to continued interest in and commitment to the special needs of older adults, the Center on Aging and the Life Course emphasizes "the long view" in the study of aging.

The focus of the Center on Aging and the Life Course (CALC) is discovery, and Dr. Ken Ferraro, Professor of Sociology, has been named Director of the Center. Dr. David Waters, Professor of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, serves as its Associate Director.

The Gerontology Program will continue, but is being transformed into the educational arm of the Center. Dr. Gerry Hyner, Professor of Health Promotion, was named Director of the Gerontology Program and will have full responsibility related to educational matters, including curriculum, degree and minor offerings, and student advising. A significant new undertaking is the development of a dual-title PhD program, and Dr. Hyner will lead this initiative.
Symposium on Life Course Inequality: Adverse Childhood Experiences and Adult Health

On September 18, 2003, the new Center on Aging and the Life Course held its annual symposium on life course inequality. This year’s theme was the link between childhood experiences and health in later life. The symposium was supported by a grant from the National Institute on Aging (K07 AG 01055) and the schools of Liberal Arts and Consumer and Family Sciences; and by the departments of Sociology and Anthropology, Health and Kinesiology, Child Development and Family Studies, Psychological Sciences, and Foods and Nutrition.

Dr. Vincent J. Felitti, of the Department of Preventive Medicine, Southern California Permanente Medical Group began the symposium with a presentation of his findings regarding the relation of adult health and well-being to unrecognized childhood experiences. The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) study is a major research study that compares current adult health status to childhood experiences decades earlier. Triggered by observations made in an obesity program at the KP San Diego Department of Preventive Medicine, Felitti’s research found a powerful relation between our emotional experiences as children and our adult emotional health, physical health, and the major causes of mortality in the United States.

Dr. Robert M. Hauser, Vilas Research Professor of Sociology and Director, Center for Demography of Health and Aging at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, responded to Felitti’s presentation with comments that underscored the problem of underreported adverse childhood experiences in the general population. Permanente’s compelling data from a population within a medical plan in southern California indicates that the relation may be even stronger across a wider, more diverse population.

Long-term Consequences of Childhood Physical Abuse was presented by Kristen Springer, a doctoral candidate from the Department of Sociology and the Center for Demography and Ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She addressed the specific adverse childhood experience of abuse and its long-term effects on adult health and well-being.

Dr. Laura Sands, Associate Professor of Nursing at Purdue University, gave an insightful response to Springer’s research design and findings.

Check our website for more information on the symposium content and the research of the key speakers. Go to www.purdue.edu/aging/ and follow the What’s New link to the Symposium Highlights and Key References.

GSO - Good to Go

This year the Gerontology Student Organization will be providing computer literacy classes for the residents of Westminster Village. This project is a continuation of a project from last year, in which the residents of Westminster Village and the GSO met to share computer knowledge with each other. Also, the GSO will be working with members of Alpha Kappa Delta (a sociology honors fraternity) to copy edit and publish a book of memoirs from over sixty residents of Westminster Village. This book will be provided to elementary and junior high schools in the greater Lafayette area. It is hoped that this project will engender more intergenerational contact between children and older adults in the area. Next semester, the GSO will be expanding its efforts to work with other older adults in the area, providing services and help where needed. Finally, the GSO will be providing volunteers for the Senior Games this coming summer.
Dawn Cooley receives first research award from CALC

The Center on Aging and the Life Course bestowed its first award for excellence in research on aging and the life course at the fall symposium. The 2003 Awards Committee decided to honor a graduate student, acknowledging that graduate education is the nexus between discovery and learning.

The recipient is a graduate student in the gerontology minor and who is nearing completion of the PhD. Dean Alan Rebar and the Director of the Center on Aging and the Life Course presented the award to recognize the research contributions of an aspiring scholar in biogerontology, Dawn Cooley, DVM.

Dawn earned her undergraduate degree in cell and developmental biology in 1991 and was awarded the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1995 from Purdue. She is on target to soon earn the PhD. Dawn has already published nine articles, including work in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* and the *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*. This award highlights her work on the life course risk for bone sarcoma, which was recently published in *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers & Prevention*.

She has just received a letter of acceptance from the *Journal of Gerontology*. For that paper, she found that just like human centenarians, the oldest-old pet dogs are cancer resistant. Congratulations, Dawn!

Student and Faculty Posters at Symposium on Life Course Inequality 2003

James G. Anderson, PhD
Consumers of e-Health: Patterns of Use and Barriers

Pei- Chun Chen
Reasons of Residential Relocation and Functional Limitations Outcomes among Very Old Adults

Jennifer Cheong, G.S. Jackson, PhD, B.R. Martin, PhD, D. Elmore, PhD, J.R. Nolan, G.P. McCabe, PhD, C.M. Weaver, PhD
The use of the rare isotope 42Ca to assess the effectiveness of isoflavones and hormone replacement therapy on bone resorption in postmenopausal women.

Krista Clark
What's Spirituality Got To Do With It? A Comparison of the Effects of Spirituality and Religion on Health and Life Satisfaction.

Sharon A. DeVaney, PhD
Consumer Sciences and Retailing Strategies for Communicating about Intergenerational Retirement Issues With an Innovative Web Site

Shalon Irving
Does Parental Death Accelerate Declines in Self-Rated Health?

Shirley Riedty, PhD, James McGlothlin, PhD, Scott Potts
The Effect of Work Experience on Balance in Younger and Older Populations

Kevin Roy, PhD
Father stories: A life course examination of paternal identity among low-income African American men

New Faculty Associates

Welcome to these new faculty associates of the Center on Aging and the Life Course: Sandra Barnes, PhD, Assistant Professor of Sociology, David Pick, PhD, Professor of Psychology in the Department of Behavioral Sciences at Purdue Calumet, and Roger Sechafer, PhD, Associate Professor of Health and Kinesiology.

We look forward to a long and fruitful association as we continue to investigate and learn about various aspects of aging.
Among the Stars...

Congratulations to Shalon Irving, Sociology, and her nominating faculty member Kenneth F. Ferraro, PhD.

NIA Master’s Level Emerging Scholar

Shalon Irving is the lastest Purdue graduate student to receive this prestigious fellowship. Tariqah Nurridin and Roland Thorpe continue their graduate work with NIA support.

Over the course of their two-year experience, master’s level emerging scholars have a faculty mentor and a doctoral student from the 2002 - 2003 AARP Andrus Foundation Minority Doctoral Leadership Program.

Scholars will also receive $2,500 to carry out their individual learning plan for each academic year of the award. During the first year, this includes travel support to GSA’s annual conference. In addition, the fellows become a member of a prestigious network of gerontological scholars and receive a quarterly newsletter, Minority Fellows Network, along with an opportunity to spend up to a week at a

Gerontological/Geriatric Research Center.

This program is funded by the National Institute on Aging and administered collaboratively between AGHE and GSA. Application forms are mailed in the fall to AGHE, The Gerontological Society of America (GSA), and Sigma Phi Omega mailing lists.

NIA Master’s Level Emerging Scholars Program is supported by a bequest to the National Institute on Aging. The program goal is to introduce minority master’s students to the rewards and demands of a research career in gerontology as well as to increase the number of ethnic minority professionals trained at the master’s level to pursue research careers and positions of leadership in the field of gerontology.

CDFS/Gerontology minor Alumna at CICOA

Stephanie Edwards Thurman, a 2002 graduate of Child Development and Family Studies with a minor in Gerontology, took a position with CICOA in Indianapolis upon completing her master’s degree. In her first year, Stephanie was instrumental in garnering an Award of Distinction for her agency from an international communications organization. The CICOA Agency Video has won an Award of Distinction and the CICOA 2002 Annual Report has

won an Honorable Mention in The Communicator Awards 2003 Media Competition.

The Communicator Awards is an international competition that recognizes outstanding work in the communications field. Entries are judged by industry professionals who look for companies and individuals whose talent exceeds a high standard of excellence and whose work serves as a benchmark for the industry.

The Award of Distinction is awarded for projects that exceed industry standards in communicating a message or idea. There were 3,730 entries from throughout the U.S. and several foreign countries. The CICOA Agency Video was among the 19 percent of entries to win this award. The Honorable Mention certificate is granted to those entries that meet the high standards of the industry. The CICOA 2002 Annual Report was among the 10 percent of entries to be granted this award.
Gerontological Society of America

Annual Scientific Meeting,
Nov 21-25, 2003 in San Diego

The 56th Annual Scientific Meeting of the GSA will be held in San Diego in November. This year, the Center on Aging and the Life Course is sponsoring 14 graduate students to attend and staff our exhibit. In addition to promoting the Center and recruiting graduate students and faculty at the exhibit booth for four days, Purdue scholars will appear frequently on the program. We are proud of the following students and faculty who were chosen to present at GSA 2003.

Students:
Chung-Ya Tang
Paper: Topic Avoidance Between Fathers and Adult Daughters
Stacy Presley
Poster: Examining the Financial Recovery Period After the Loss of a Spouse

Faculty:
Ken Ferraro
Paper: Mixed Mode Interviews in Panel Data: Implications for Health Research on Black and White Older Adults, with Jessica Kelley-Moore
Poster: The Color of Hospitalization Over the Life Course, with Jessica Kelley-Moore, Roland Thorpe, George McCabe, Zhen Jiang
Poster: Differential Relations Between Volunteering and Depression Across Age Groups: How Does Sample Attrition Matter? with Yunqing Li
Poster: Antecedents of Avoidable Hospitalizations Over the Life Course, with Jessica Kelley-Moore and Angie Henderson

Karen Fingerman
Poster: Women’s romantic relationships after widowhood. Moorman, S., M., Booth, A., Fingerman, K. L.
Poster: Age and gender differences in topics of intergenerational tensions. Cichy, K. E., Fingerman, K. L., & Lefkowitz, E. S.

Laura Sands

Laura P. Sands, GSA Fellow

Dr. Sands joined GSA in 1988 and has presented at all but two annual meetings since joining. She is a member of the Alzheimer’s Disease Interest group and last year organized a symposium titled, “Preservation of functioning in persons with dementia.”

While in Philadelphia and San Francisco, she donated much time to speaking to senior groups about memory loss and dementia. While living in the San Francisco Bay Area, she served on the scientific advisory board for the No. California Alzheimer’s Association, and consulted with two other members of that group to create a brochure to educate caregivers about detecting delirium in their dementia patients. She has consulted extensively on development of measures for determining quality of life in Alzheimer’s patients and for determining dementia patients’ satisfaction with care. Further, she has mentored junior faculty, fellows and post-docs in their research on aging. All of her positions have specified that a significant portion of time be allocated to providing statistical and methodological consulting to facilitate other’s research in gerontology or geriatrics.

In addition to her published research on determining factors associated with non-optimal functioning in frail and demented older adults and the effectiveness of interventions that promote optimal functioning in these older adults, her current unpublished research explores dementia patients’ competence in rating their own quality of life and their competence in making informed consents and drawing up living wills.
Recent Grants and Fellowships


Harm HogenEsch, Veterinary Pathobiology, from Indiana University School of Medicine, July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003, “Subcontract - RMA Award,” $19,500.


International Travel Grants

Nancy Edwards, Nursing, 14th International Nursing Research Conference, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

James Fleet, Foods and Nutrition, Twelfth Vitamin D Workshop, Maastricht, Netherlands.

Michael Flynn, Health and Kinesiology, International Society of Exercise Immunology, Copenhagen, Denmark.


David Waters, Veterinary Clinical Sciences, 8th International Conference on Mechanisms of Antimutagenesis and Anticarcinogenesis, Pisa, Italy.


Michael Murray, Pharmacy Practice, from Brigham and Women’s Hospital, September 16, 2002 through August 31, 2003, “Improving Safety by Computerizing Outpatient Prescribing,” $19,432.


Recent Grants and Fellowships, cont.


Connie Weaver, Foods and Nutrition, from Whitewaves, June 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004, “Calcium Bioavailability of Different Types of Soy in Humans,” $199,691.


Clifford Kinley Trust Award

Robert Proctor, Psychological Sciences, “Age Differences in Response Selection for Single and Multiple Task Sets,” $19,931.

David Waters, Veterinary Clinical Sciences, “Dietary Supplement Use Behavior in Elderly Men: Motivational Factors and Biological Consequences of Self-medicating with the Anticancer Trace Mineral Selenium,” $20,000.

Research Grants ($13,263 each)
Sharon Devaney, Consumer Sciences and Retailing, “Baby Boomer Households and Economic Well-Being.”

Kevin Sowinski, Pharmacy Practice, “Sex-related Differences in Levofloxacin Pharmacokinetics.”

“Have regular hours for work and play, make each day both useful and pleasant, and prove that you understand the worth of time by employing it well. Then youth will be delightful, old age will bring few regrets, and life will become a beautiful success.”

Louisa May Alcott, American novelist

Faculty Support to Write an Extramural Grant Application on Aging
Purdue University Center on Aging and the Life Course

Applications due December 10, 2003

This award competition provides support for writing an external grant application. The intent is to provide support to faculty who have completed preliminary research and are prepared to write an external grant application during 2004. These funds can be expended on a summer stipend, % FTE, paying consultants to review the pre-proposal, or research-related expenses.

Preference will be given to projects proposed by Center on Aging and the Life Course Faculty Associates that address how experiences early in the life course shape physical or mental health in adulthood and later life. Preference will also be given to faculty in the social and behavioral sciences or in collaboration with social scientists. Interdisciplinary projects, including those involving animal models, are also welcome.

For more information, www.purdue.edu/aging
## Spring 2004 Gerontology Courses

### Primary Content

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Time/Location</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tr>
<td>AUS 519B</td>
<td>Aging and Communication</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>TTh 1:30-3:20 (1/12-3/7)</td>
<td>Ringel</td>
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<tr>
<td>F&amp;N 580</td>
<td>Geriatric Nutrition</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>MW 12:30</td>
<td>Campbell/Morré</td>
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<td>PSY 535</td>
<td>Psychology of Death and Dying</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>TTh 3:00-4:15</td>
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<td>PSY 661</td>
<td>Personal/Social Functioning in the Aged</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>arrange 3 hours</td>
<td>Cicirelli</td>
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<tr>
<td>VCS 650</td>
<td>Biology of Aging</td>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>arrange hours &amp; cr.</td>
<td>Waters</td>
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### Related Content

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<td>AUS 531</td>
<td>Language Disorders in Adults</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MWF 1:30</td>
<td>Weber-Fox</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUS 538</td>
<td>Motor Disorders of Speech</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>MW 4:30-6:20 (1/12-3/7)</td>
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<td>BIOL 562</td>
<td>Neural Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MWF 12:30</td>
<td>Powley/Sahley</td>
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<td>CDFS 502</td>
<td>Survey of Human Development</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>T 6:00-8:50</td>
<td>Calahan</td>
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<td>SOC 574</td>
<td>Social Organization of Healthcare</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>TTh 12:00-1:15</td>
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